

# Seattle Public Utilities – Drainage Review/Requirements

**Note:** This information is provided for guidance only.

Seattle Public Utilities is responsible for establishing the requirements and review of Street Improvement projects to ensure adequate drainage design requirements.

The summary below outlines some of the considerations and issues that need to be addressed to ensure a project is designed with appropriate drainage considerations.

## **Drainage Review:**

If over 750 square feet of land is disturbed and it is not part of maintenance, repair or utilities a Drainage review will be required by Seattle Public Utilities.

## **Discharge Considerations:**

- To Sanitary Sewer—not allowed unless it is likely to carry significant pollutants and there are no feasible alternatives
- To Combined Sewer—if there is 2000 square feet or less of new/replaced impervious service, follow construction storm water rules; if more than 2000 square feet of new/replaced impervious surface, detention will be required
- To Designated Receiving Water—no detention required, check for treatment requirements
- To Storm Drain System—if there is 2000 square feet or less of new/replaced impervious service, no detention or treatment required; if more than 2000 square feet of new/replaced impervious surface, detention will be required

## **Detention Consideration:**

Discharge to riparian corridor class A or B, detention required

- 0.2 cfs/acre, 25 yr. storm
- 0.15 cfs/acre, 2 yr. storm
- If more than 5000 sf of new/replaced impervious surface detention required:
  - 0.5 cfs/acre, 100 yr. storm
  - 0.2 cfs/acre, 25 yr. storm
  - 0.15 cfs/acre, 2 yr. storm

## **For Detention:**

If design function cannot be met, prepare Integrated Drainage Plan – for SPU review.  
If design function can be met, then follow construction stormwater control rules.

Is there adequate conveyance capacity?

- If yes, check treatment requirements
- If no, the detention or conveyance improvement required is:  
Detention:
  - 0.2 cfs/acre, 25 yr. storm
  - 0.15 cfs/acre, 2 yr. storm

### **Treatment Review:**

Is it greater than or equal to 5000 sf?

- If no, no treatment required, satisfied stormwater code
- If yes, then does project have 5000 sf or more of new impervious surface, or 1 acre of accumulated new and replaced impervious surface?
  - If yes, then Standard Stormwater Treatment required
  - If no, then is it greater than or equal to 1 acre?
    - If no, no treatment required—satisfied stormwater code
    - If Yes, does it have 1 acre or more of accumulative new/replaced vegetative cover or exposed soil?
      - If no, then no treatment required—satisfied stormwater code
      - If yes, then does site have a landscape management plan?
        - If yes, then no treatment required—satisfied stormwater code
        - If no, standard stormwater treatment required

Does site meet definition for high use?

- If yes, stormwater treatment facility required (more than standard stormwater treatment)
- If no, no additional stormwater treatment required, standard treatment applies